



# STATE OF IOWA

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Subject: 2013 UST Refresher Summary

On behalf of Elaine, Bonnie, Paul and the entire UST section staff, I want to thank those of you who attended the 2013 Refresher Course last week. We are certainly grateful to our presenters as well. They covered some very important areas of our business—from safety at the job site to the latest petroleum business trends. I think if one were to describe this year's Refresher in a word it would be "wisdom." Our presenters brought the combined qualities of knowledge, experience, good judgment and understanding to us through their presentations.

- Elaine Douskey, UST Section supervisor filled you in on Carolyn Hoskinson's visit to Iowa. Her visit kicked off a very busy week. Carolyn's visit was arranged through the Environmental Professionals of Iowa (EPI). It was Carolyn's first trip to Iowa, and we all were honored to have her visit. She is a dynamic and engaging speaker, and had engagements with EPI, DNR, ISU, and PMCI. She and her staff work hard for our tank program.
- We had Al Hilgren from Seneca talk to us about his 40 years in the petroleum business. There was a bit of nostalgia in Al's talk along with some timeless advice: "The responsibility and accountability of the individual UST Professional for system installations are critical...Accountability for the work you do can come right into your own living room." One more thing that Al shared is "Never stop teaching and training. Don't hide your valuable experience and knowledge—pass it on."
- Previously, we had asked Ken Arp to speak at our Remover courses. He has the advantage of being a former OSHA investigator, and now working in consultation with OSHA. Ken knows he doesn't have to scare us into safety, he just boils it down to the essentials: "One breath of bad air is all we get. One breath of bad air and the brain tells the body to shut down. You have four minutes left."
- It is quite an honor for our state and business that one of our own UST professionals is President of PEI, Terry Cooper with Acterra Group in Marion. Terry blended his business and PEI positions into what I took away as an optimistic forecast for the petroleum industry along with some very interesting trends/developments.
- We featured a panel discussion of owner/operators for the first time this year, and it was insightful. Lynn Sheets, with Key Coop, Sam Stam, Elliott Oil, and Mark Cobb, Cobb Oil joined Jeff Hove, moderator, to discuss the challenges for owners and operators in the petroleum business. All the speakers mentioned

that their operations had very tight margins, and how breaking concrete can also break the bank. The panel discussion provided a valuable perspective.

- What Rounds & Associates and PMMIC discover during compliance inspections pretty much reflects trends in the state. Brian Pottebaum explained what deficiencies are most common among owners/operators. Operator training violations have moved into the Top 10 list.
- We had Gary Saltz and Dale Gustafson from Franklin Fueling return to talk about new products from the new Incon ATG system to the Split Test Boot. Both Franklin and OPW's Bennett Schwartz talked about a replacement spill bucket that should make costs a bit easier for owners and operators.
- Todd Bogenrief from Containment Solutions visited us for the first time and spoke about the installation process for their new tanks.